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Application Serial No.: 10/553,563  
Attorney Docket No.: 26281-11A

Examiner: M. Moore  
Art Unit: 1796

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) A method for modifying a surface of a solid material, comprising:

preparing a fuel gas by adding an alcohol compound to a silicon-containing compound having a flash point of 0 to 100°C and a boiling point of 105 to 250°C, wherein the amount of the alcohol compound added is in the range of 0.01 to 30 mol% when the total amount of the silicon-containing compound is defined as 100 mol%, and

carrying out a silicating treatment on the surface of the solid material by wholly or partially blowing a flame of ~~the a-fuel gas that contains a silicon-containing compound having a flash point of 0 to 100°C and a boiling point of 105 to 250°C~~ onto the surface of the solid material.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound has at least one of a nitrogen atom, a halogen atom, a vinyl group, and an amino group in molecule or on a terminal of the molecule.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of hexamethyldisilazane, vinyltrimethoxysilane, vinyltriethoxysilane, trifluoropropyl trimethoxysilane, trifluoropropyl trichlorosilane, 3-aminopropyl trimethoxysilane, 3-aminopropyl triethoxysilane, and 3-chloropropyl trimethoxysilane, which is used independently or in combination of two or more of them.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound is a mixture of a silicon-containing compound containing a nitrogen atom and a halogen atom in molecule with a silicon-containing compound containing a vinyl group or an amino group on the terminal of the molecule.

5. (Canceled)

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6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the content of the silicon-containing compound in the fuel gas is in the range of  $1 \times 10^{-10}$  to 10 mol % when the total amount of the fuel gas is defined as 100 mol %.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound is in a vapor-liquid equilibrium state, and a gaseous part of the silicon-containing compound is mixed in the fuel gas and then combusted.

8-12: (Canceled)

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